

CAROLINA BEACH STATE PARK PARK PROFILE

PARK PURPOSE STATEMENT

The purpose statement for this park has not yet been developed.

PRIMARY INTERPRETIVE THEMES

Carnivorous Plants: This theme focuses on the Venus flytrap and other carnivorous plants in the park. It especially focuses on their habitat, management needs and their unique adaptations.

Diverse Plant Communities: This theme focuses on the eight distinctive community types, the geologic and coastal history which create these environments, the individual plant adaptations to these communities, the uniqueness of so many plant communities in a very small area and management needs of some of these communities, such as prescribed burning.

STATISTICS

Visitation (1998)	223,797
Operating Budget (FY 98-99)	\$ 635,502
Revenue (FY 98-99)	\$ 376,284

VISITOR FACILITIES

Tent & trailer camping (83 sites, showers, dumpstation, no hookups)	Primitive group camping (2 sites)
5 Hiking trails (5.7 miles total)	Picnic tables (19)
Visitor center	River fishing
Exhibit hall	Marina (40 slips) and concession area
	Drinking water

CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION NEEDS

1	The park building renovations project will complete major repairs to 7 buildings and minor repairs to 5 buildings.	\$ 207,557
2	The maintenance area improvement project will provide a paved maintenance yard, industrial equipment and 5 new or rehabilitated buildings; construct a flammable storage building, washhouse, six bay vehicular storage building (with added vehicle lift); renovate the tractor shed to a lumber storage building; and construct a vehicle wash station.	700,252
3	The dock additions to marina project will construct docks for 14 new boat slips, provide flag pole with full set of warning flags, repair the existing floating courtesy dock and provide 50 amp service to 42 existing boat slips.	495,510

4	The ranger residence project will build 1 ranger residence to provide for expanded residential needs.	191,404
5	The picnic shelter project will construct an 8 table shelter to provide opportunity for group reservation in an area which presently has no such facility.	116,935
TOTAL:		\$1,711,658

REGISTERED NATURAL HERITAGE AREA

Carolina Beach Registered Natural Heritage Area: This area encompasses 280 acres on the western side of the park. Ninety of these acres are on park property; the remaining 190 are leased from the federal government. The area supports 13 distinct natural community types: Brackish Marsh; Phragmites Marsh; Small Depression Pocosin; Pond Pine Woodland; Vernal Pool; Small Depression Pond; Coastal Fringe Evergreen Forest; Coastal Fringe Sandhill; Xeric Sandhill Scrub; Pine Savanna; Successional Coastal Fringe Evergreen Forest; Tidal Cypress – Gum Swamp; and Nonriverine Swamp Forest. This Registered Natural Heritage Area is one of the most diverse sites managed by the Division. The presence of dunes, swales, savannas and pocosin vegetation mixed with limesink ponds makes this site significant.

FUTURE LAND ACQUISITION NEEDS

Completion of the Carolina Beach State Park master plan will require the acquisition of 65 acres. High priority acquisitions include the limesink ponds and their unusual plant and animal species.

Master Plan Total Acreage	485 acres
Current Park Acreage	<u>420 acres</u>
Acquisition Needs	65 acres

1999 STAFF POSITIONS

Permanent		Seasonal		Peak Load	
Park Superintendent III	1	Park Attendant	1	Park Attendant	1
Park Ranger II	2	Assistant Park Ranger	1	Office Assistant II	1
Park Ranger I	1	General Utility Worker	2	Refreshment Stand Clerk	1
Maintenance Mechanic III	1	Refreshment Stand Clerk	4		
Maintenance Mechanic I	1				
Office Assistant III	1				
Processing Assistant III	1				

PROPOSED STAFF ADDITIONS

Permanent	Seasonal	Peak Load